

Conversational French Course Now Starting

Parlez-Vous Français? If not, there is an excellent opportunity for you to do so. A course in conversational French is being offered free of charge by the Adult Education Department of Torrance Unified Schools.

Correct pronunciation, vocabulary building and conversational practice will receive emphasis; using tapes, records and the latest methods of quick language learning. This course is especially useful to anyone planning a trip to Europe.

Interested persons may register Monday or Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. in Room 122 of Torrance High School, or call FA 8-8080, Ext. 295, for further information.

Local Man Named on Moose Lodge

Joseph Piatt, a member and past governor of the Torrance Moose lodge, has been appointed to the chairmanship of the state-wide By-laws committee of the California Moose Association, Roy Sutton of Visalia, president of the association, announced today.

The new state committee chairman was a vice-president of the California Moose Association in 1954, and Piatt has received several national awards for his work as civic affairs committee chairman of the Torrance Moose lodge.

Sutton also announced that the 1960 state convention of the association, consisting of more than 100 lodges throughout

Geologists to Aid County in 130 Law Suits

Supervisor Burton W. Chace today reported employment of the Stone Geological Service, Inc., as consulting geologists to assist the county in the pending Portuguese Bend litigation, affecting Palos Verdes property owners.

There is a total of 130 separate lawsuits seeking damages totaling more than \$12,000,000 against the county. Property owners charge that construction of Crenshaw Blvd. and Palos Verdes Drive South caused the reactivation of an ancient landslide at this Portuguese Bend location.

County counsel has insisted that the slides were caused primarily by natural causes and the fact that all of the houses built were provided with no sewers.

Cross-complaints have also been filed by both the county and the individual property owners against the Palos Verdes Properties and Palos Verdes Corporation, developers of the area, charging fraud in California, will be held at the Biltmore hotel in Los Angeles.

legedly concealing the existence of the landslide condition from purchaser of home sites and from the county when the right-of-way for the two highways in question were donated to the county.

Chace said that Dr. Robert Stone, president of the Stone Geological Service, has been a member of the Geological Hazards Committee of the City of Los Angeles and has served on the Geological Qualifications Board of the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety. He has recently completed a study of slide conditions in the Pacific Palisades area and also has made a number of studies in the Palos Verdes area in connection with the Portuguese Bend landslide.

It is estimated the time required to perform the study will be approximately 30 days. Fee to be paid Dr. Stone will be \$150 per diem and \$100 per day for services of any additional geologists used in collecting data and assisting in the work.

The services will include correlation and analyzing the geological aspects of available data and reports, conducting of field examinations and investigations, consulting with county officials, conference with county counsel on geological aspects of the landslide suits and preparing reports and exhibits.

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